WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. An eluent for ion chromatography for analyzing divalent cations, which comprises an acid and at least one amino acid selected from the group consisting of histidine, lysine and arginine.
- 2. The eluent according to Claim 1, wherein the divalent cations are alkaline earth metal ions.
- 3. The eluent according to Claim 1, wherein the acid is nitric acid, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid,
- methanesulfonic acid, oxalic acid, tartaric acid, benzoic acid or phthalic acid.
 - 4. A method for analyzing cations by ion chromatography employing a cation exchange column, wherein the eluent as defined in Claim 1 is used.